



## Legislative Bulletin.....October 17, 2005

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### Summary of the Bills Under Consideration Today:

**Total Number of New Government Programs:** 0

**Total Cost of Discretionary Authorizations:** \$0

**Effect on Revenue:** \$0

**Total Change in Mandatory Spending:** \$0

**Total New State & Local Government Mandates:** 0

**Total New Private Sector Mandates:** 0

**Number of Bills Without Committee Reports:** 0

**Number of Reported Bills that Don't Cite Specific Clauses of Constitutional Authority:** 0

### **H.Res. 457 — Recognizing the importance and positive contributions of chemistry to our everyday lives and supporting the goals and ideals of National Chemistry Week (*Holt*)**

**Order of Business:** The resolution is scheduled for consideration on Monday, October 17, 2005, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

An almost identical bill, H. Res. 395, passed the House during the 108<sup>th</sup> Congress by a voice vote on October 28, 2003.

**Summary:** H.Res. 457 resolves that the House of Representatives:

- 1) “recognizes that the important contributions of chemical scientists and engineers to technological progress and the health of many industries have created new jobs, boosted economic growth, and improved the Nation’s health and standard of living;
- 2) “supports the goals of National Chemistry Week as founded by the American Chemical Society; and
- 3) “encourages the people of the United States to observe National Chemistry Week with appropriate recognition, ceremonies, activities, and programs to demonstrate the importance of chemistry to our everyday lives.”

Among other findings, the resolution also states:

- “the American Chemical Society, the world’s largest scientific society, founded National Chemistry Week in 1987 to educate the public, particularly elementary and secondary school children, about the role of chemistry in society and to enhance students’ appreciation of the chemical sciences;
- “the theme of National Chemistry Week in 2005, ‘The Joy of Toys’, was chosen to emphasize the chemistry involved in the creation and production of toys and the role that chemistry has played in new material development that has helped to make toys safer and more durable; and
- “in recognition of National Chemistry Week, volunteers across the United States will teach children about the chemistry involved with the materials, function, and properties of toys during the week beginning October 16, 2005.”

**Additional Information:** According to the American Chemical Society’s website (<http://www.chemistry.org/portal/a/c/s/1/home.html>), it is a “self-governed individual membership organization that consists of more than 158,000 members at all degree levels and in all fields of chemistry.” The organization was founded in 1876.

**Committee Action:** H.Res. 457 was introduced on September 21, 2005, and referred to the Committee on Science, which took no official action.

**Cost to Taxpayers:** The resolution authorizes no expenditure.

**Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?:** No.

**Does the Bill Contain Any New State-Government, Local-Government, or Private-Sector Mandates?:** No.

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**H.Con.Res. 259 — Expressing the sense of Congress with respect to raising awareness and enhancing the state of computer security in the United States, and supporting the goals and ideals of National Cyber Security Awareness Month (Boehlert)**

**Order of Business:** The resolution is scheduled for consideration on Monday, October 17, 2005, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

**Summary:** H. Con. Res. 259 resolves that Congress:

- 1) “supports the goals and ideals of National Cyber Security Awareness Month; and
- 2) “will work with Federal agencies, national organizations, businesses, and educational institutions to encourage the development and implementation of existing and future computer security voluntary consensus standards, practices, and technologies in order to enhance the state of computer security in the United States.”

Among other findings, the resolution also states:

- “over 202,000,000 Americans use the Internet in the United States, including 53 percent of home-users through broadband connections, to communicate with family and friends, manage their finances, pay their bills, improve their education, shop at home, and read about current events;
- “the approximately 23,000,000 small businesses in the United States, who represent 99.7 percent of all United States employers and employ 50.1 percent of the private work force, increasingly rely on the Internet to manage their businesses, expand their customer reach, and enhance their connection with their supply chain;
- “cyber security is a critical part of our Nation’s overall homeland security, in particular the control systems that control and monitor our drinking water, dams, and other water management systems; our electricity grids, oil and gas supplies, and pipeline distribution networks; our transportation systems; and other critical manufacturing processes;
- “terrorists and others with malicious motives have demonstrated an interest in utilizing cyber means to attack our Nation, and the Department of Homeland Security’s mission includes securing the homeland against cyber terrorism and other attacks;
- “consumers face significant financial and personal privacy losses due to identity theft and fraud, as reported in 205,568 complaints in 2004 to the Federal Trade Commission’s Consumer Sentinel database; and Internet-related complaints in 2004 accounted for 53 percent of all reported fraud complaints, with monetary losses of over \$265,000,000 and a median loss of \$214;
- “the National Cyber Security Alliance’s mission is to increase awareness of cyber security practices and technologies to home users, students, teachers, and small businesses through educational activities, online resources and checklists, and Public Service Announcements; and
- “the National Cyber Security Alliance (NCSA) has designated October as National Cyber Security Awareness Month, which will provide an opportunity to educate the people of the United States about computer security.”

**Additional Information:** NCSA is a not-for-profit, 501(c)(3) organization. According to their website (<http://www.staysafeonline.info>), NCSA is a public-private partnership, and its sponsors include the Department of Homeland Security, Federal Trade Commission, and “many private-sector corporations and organizations.”

**Committee Action:** H. Con. Res. 259 was introduced on October 6, 2005, and referred to the Committee on Science, which took no official action.

**Cost to Taxpayers:** The resolution authorizes no expenditure.

**Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?:** No.

**Does the Bill Contain Any New State-Government, Local-Government, or Private-Sector Mandates?:** No.

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